

**Release Highlights: November 6, 2008**

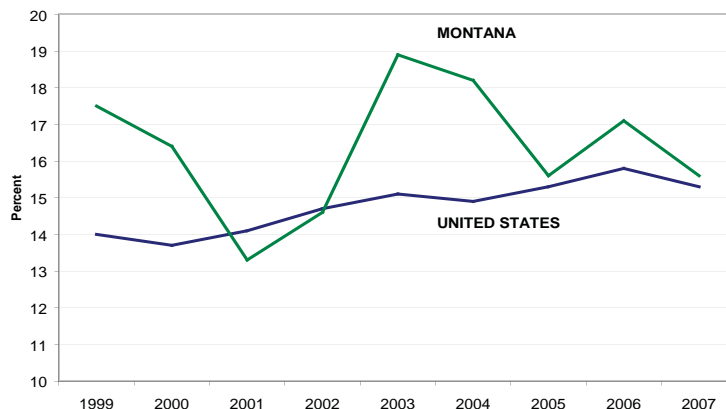
### MONTANA

#### Health Insurance Coverage in Montana

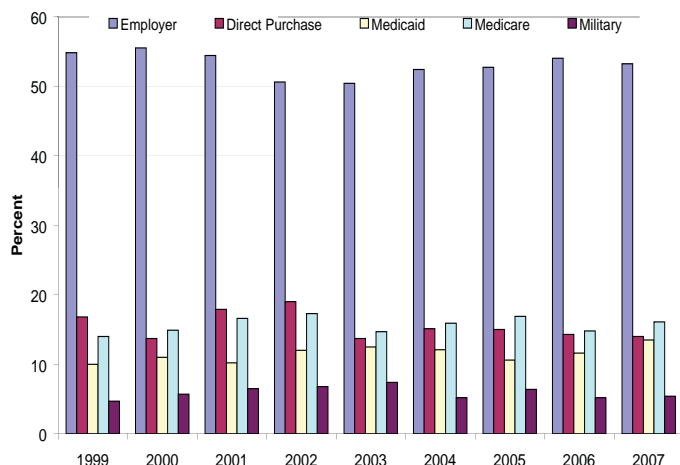
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/sahie/data/2005/tables.html>

Health insurance coverage was debated, discussed and dissected during the recent presidential campaign. In Montana, the percent of individuals without health insurance declined from 17.1% in 2006 to 15.6% in 2007. However, as the chart to the right shows, Montana continues to have higher uninsured rates than the nation, except in 2001 and 2002, according to the 2007 report from the U.S. Census Bureau titled *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States*.

**PERCENT WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**



**SOURCE OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE IN MONTANA**



Montana's improvement in health insurance coverage is due to the increased coverage from Medicaid, the government program for low income persons. In 1999, the percentage of individuals covered by Medicaid was 10.3%. By 2007, that percentage was 13.2%. As can be seen in the chart to the left, the percentage of employees receiving health insurance benefits from their employers has declined. In 1999, 54.8% of employees received health insurance benefits. By 2007, that percentage was 53.2%.

The 2005 percentage rates of county residents without health insurance were published by the U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAIHE) program. Over 38.2% of all residents in Garfield County are without health insurance coverage. Conversely, only 13.7% of Silver Bow residents are without coverage. The counties with the highest and lowest uninsured rates are listed in the table below. Interactive tables for different ages are located at the SAIHE site.

### More Information:

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#### RECENTLY RELEASED

**October 2, 2008**  
Consolidated Federal  
Funds Report

**September 23, 2008**  
American Community Survey;  
Social, Economic, and Housing  
Profiles, 2007

County	Percent Uninsured	Rank
Garfield	38.2	1
Daniels	38.1	2
Petroleum	35.8	3
Treasure	34.4	4
Powder River	33.7	5
Glacier	16.2	52
Deer Lodge	15.3	53
Yellowstone	14.4	54
Lewis and Clark	14.1	55
Silver Bow	13.7	56

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Statistics